By way of expressing our sorrow and showing our respect to the departed soul, I request hon. Members to stand in their places in silence for two minutes.

(The House stood in silence for two minutes.)

MR. SPEAKER : As a mark of respect to the deceased I now adjourn the House for thirty minutes and we shall re-assemble at 11-45 of the clock.

The House then adjourned.

II.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

11-45 a.m. MR. SPEAKER : With the leave of the House, the question hour will be restricted to 12-15 p.m.

Death of a person under Police custody in Tambaram

* 3118 *Q.*—SRI K. P. GOPALAN (on behalf of Sri M. Kalyanasundaram) : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that one Sadanandam died while in Police custody at Tambaram in Chingleput district in June 1955;

(*b*) the circumstances under which the death took place; and

(*c*) whether any enquiry was conducted, and if so, the findings thereof?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : (*a*) & (*b*) It is not true to say that Sadanandam died while he was under Police custody at Tambaram. On the afternoon of 6th June 1955, this person was brought to the Police station at Tambaram for interrogation. As it was found that he was seriously ill, he was taken from the Police station to the General Hospital, Madras, for treatment, where he died during the early hours of 7th June 1955.

(*c*) Yes, an inquiry was held by the Revenue Divisional Officer, Chingleput. His report goes to show that Sadanandam died as a result of poisoning by nitrate and that the Police were not responsible for his death.

(Questions Nos. 3119 and 3120 taken together.)

Draft rules under the Plantation Labour Act, 1951

* 3119 *Q.*—SRI K. P. GOPALAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state with reference to the answer given to question No. 1739 on 31st March 1955 when the State Government would finalise the draft rules proposed to be made under section 43 (1) of the Plantations Labour Act, 1951?